

Thompson, E

July 1915
(12)

1182 College St.,

Toronto, Ont., July 5, 1915.

Dr. R. A. Falconer, C. M. G.,

President, University of Toronto,
Toronto, Ont.

Dear Sir,—

I wish to call your attention to what I consider a real injustice in connection with my course.

I am a student at University College, and have been taking the Second Year's work in Chemistry and Mineralogy. At the beginning of the term, when the hour was taken off our laboratory periods, the work was not cut down, and as we were anxious to get the most out of our course we worked through our lunch hour a greater part of the time.

On account of so much work, some of us were not able to get much reading done during the term, or our lecture notes studied until the week preceding the examination.

In my own case, I am of a naturally nervous disposition and can

never do justice to myself in the examination room even when the regular time of two hours and a half is alloted. The result is, I have failed in my written examinations and am not allowed to proceed to a higher year, notwithstanding, that I have done a faithful and hard year's work in the practical part of the course, and that I have obtained a good percentage.

I petitioned the Council to proceed, at least, in the General Course of the Third Year, but the petition has been refused. As I am twenty-nine years of age, having been unable to commence my course until rather late, and as I am trying to put myself through, it places me in a position where I find it almost impossible to continue. The University, in my case at least, has always discouraged rather than encouraged me to get a higher education, and I think the same is true in the case of others.

Surely, the work I have done for two years in the Special Course

ought to be equivalent to the work of the General Course. If I were ten years younger, or if the standard of the University examinations was at stake, I would be quite satisfied to abide by the ruling, but when I am willing to finish in the General Course in order to be better fitted for my life work, and when I find it almost impossible to repeat my year, the Council refuses to grant me the privilege, and simply compels me to give up the hope of getting a higher education.

When one works hard all the time and is shown no consideration, and is given no encouragement to proceed, it is most discouraging, and I think unjust.

Hoping something may be done, and that I shall not be compelled to give up my desire for a higher education, when it is so necessary for the young people of our country, I am,

Yours sincerely,

E. Thompson.

July 6th, 1915

Mr. F. Thompson,

1182 College Street, Toronto.

Dear Mr. Thompson:

I have looked into your case and find that you have been making a brave struggle to get through, and you have my deep sympathy in your struggle. I do not know, however, whether I can personally do anything to help you or not. At present the Registrar is absent, and there will be no committee dealing with results during the present month. Also I leave myself for my holidays to-morrow. All I can do will be to take the case up with the Registrar when I return and see whether we can do anything, but do not take this more than as a promise that I will do my best. Such matters do not finally rest with me, but with the Committee and the Council.

Yours sincerely,

President.

Sen. Mat. May 1913. Gen. Course.

Lat. $\frac{34}{35}$ Fr. $\frac{28}{27}$ Biol. $\frac{28}{65}$ Ave. Hist. 44.

Eng. $\frac{28}{71}$ Mod. $\frac{35}{36}$ Alg. Geom. $\frac{26}{66}$

Failed.

Sen. Mat. Sept. 1913. Gen. Course.

Lat. $\frac{34}{32}$ x. Fr. $\frac{28}{42}$ Biol. $\frac{28}{60}$ Ave. Hist. 42

Eng. $\frac{28}{45}$ Mod. $\frac{35}{23}$ x. Alg. Geom. $\frac{26}{58}$

Ist year. May 1914. Natural Science.

Lat. C.

Natural Science 61%. III

IInd year. May 1915. Com.

Eng. $\frac{58}{52}$

Gen. 40

Geol. 50

Com. 48%. Failed.

Chem. TW. 54%.

Elem. & Phy. Chem 60%.

Phys. " 35%.

Org. " 37%.

Geol. stat. 38%.

" Practical 73%.

Elem. math 47%.

Pract. " 69%.

Crystall 30%.

Calculus 27%.

Elec. & mag 48%.

Light & Acous. 32%.

11 in class

4 passed

2 on active shore

1 deg.

4 failed

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